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Department of State

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 /027 W
126255 120653Z /13

R 112245Z SEP 81
FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PN
TO FBIS WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN//SCJ2 SCSA//
INFO COMANTDEFCOM ROOSEVELT ROADS PR
CDR 4TH PSYOP GROUP FT BRAGG NC
USAFSO/IN HOWARD AFB PN
CDR 470TH MI GP FT CLAYTON PN
NAVSTA PANAMA CANAL RODMAN PN
CDR 193D INF BDE FT CLAYTON PN
STORAGE CENTER FBIS WASHDC
FBIS CAVERSHAM/DW
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR ES
SECSTATE WASH DC //FOR ARA/CEN/ES//
NAVAL SECURITY GROUP ACTIVITY GALETA ISLAND PN
FBPA

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COPY TO ELAD

EL SALVADOR: ARMED FORCES REPORT GUERRILLAS KILL 11 CIVILIANS

PA112245

SAN SALVADOR LA PRENSA GRAFICA IN SPANISH 11 SEP 81 PP 2, 19

((EXCERPTS)) THE ARMED FORCES PRESS COMMITTEE ((COPREFA)) HAS REPORTED THAT 11 PERSONS DIED AS A RESULT OF A MACHINEGUN ATTACK CARRIED OUT BY GUERRILLAS WHO OPENED FIRE ON A TRUCK AND A BUS CARRYING CIVILIANS NEAR EL ZAPOTE ON THE ROAD THAT GOES FROM SENSUNTEPEQUE TO VILLA DOLORES.

IT INDICATED THAT THIS NEW ATTACK AGAINST CIVILIAN POPULATION LEFT MANY HUMBLE FAMILIES OF THE REGION IN MOURNING BECAUSE THEIR RELATIVES WERE TRAVELLING IN THE TWO VEHICLES ON THE WAY TO WORK. THE INCIDENT OCCURRED AT 0800. IN ADDITION TO MACHINEGUNS AND HIGH-CALIBER RIFLES, THE GUERRILLAS USED BAZOOKAS AND APPARENTLY OTHER HIGHPOWERED ARMS. ACCORDING TO THE ARMED FORCES SPOKESMAN, THE PASSENGERS WHO WERE RIDDLED WITH BULLETS INCLUDED SOME NATIONAL GUARDSMEN. ((PASSAGE OMITTED))

IN CLARIFYING A REPORT DATELINED IN JUTUAPA IN WHICH AN INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCY REPORTED THAT 40 RELATIVES OF NATIONAL GUARDSMEN HAD BEEN KILLED, THIS COMMITTEE EXPLAINED THAT THEY WERE ONLY 21 PERSONS WHO WERE VICTIMS OF THE AGENTS OF "INTERNATIONAL HATRED FINANCED BY THE MARXIST-LENINIST ORGANIZATIONS THAT OPERATE IN THE COUNTRY." IT ADDED THAT THIS, AS WELL AS THE VILLA DOLORES MASSACRE WERE HARSHLY CRITICIZED BY THE PEOPLE IN GENERAL BECAUSE THE GUERRILLAS MERCILESSLY KILLED PEOPLE WHO ARE COMPLETELY INNOCENT AND NOT INVOLVED IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

REGARDING MILITARY ACTIONS UNDERWAY IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY IN SEVERAL PLACES IN USULUTAN DEPARTMENT, COPREFA REPORTED THAT THEY WERE NORMAL COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS ORDERED BY THE ARMED FORCES HIGH COMMAND IN AN ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE GUERRILLA CELLS WHICH HAVE BEEN REVEALED TO THE AUTHORITIES BY PEASANTS OF THE REGION. ACCORDING TO AN OFFICER, SPECIFIC DATA CANNOT BE FURNISHED BECAUSE THE OPERATIONS THAT WERE ORDERED ARE STILL UNDERDAY. HE NOTED THAT THE PERTINENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION WILL BE RELEASED SOON. ((PASSAGE OMITTED))
(ENDALL) 11 SEP MVB/AFRAM/LAC 11/2305Z SEP

EOT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR.
REVIEWED BY R. Valas DATE 10/14/82
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